

PREVIEW

The Devil and Tom Walker

Washington Irving

Summary Tom Walker meets the Devil (“Old Scratch”) in a swamp. The Devil offers the pirate Captain Kidd’s treasure to Tom on certain conditions. Tom’s wife encourages him to accept, but Tom refuses. She leaves to find the Devil and make her own bargain. After her second try, she doesn’t come back. Later, Tom finds her apron with a heart and liver in it. He assumes that the Devil has killed her. Almost grateful, Tom looks for the Devil again. This time, he makes a deal. Tom will get Captain Kidd’s treasure if he becomes a moneylender. Later, Tom regrets his deal and starts going to church often. But the Devil returns and sends Tom off on horseback into a storm. Tom never comes back, though his troubled spirit appears on stormy nights.



Note-taking Guide

Use this sequence chart to keep track of events in the story.

Event 1: Tom Walker takes a shortcut through the swamp and finds a skull.
Event 2:
Event 3:
Event 4:
Event 5:
Event 6:
Event 7:
Event 8:
Event 9:
Event 10: